

# Routes to tour in Germany

## The Swabian Alb Route

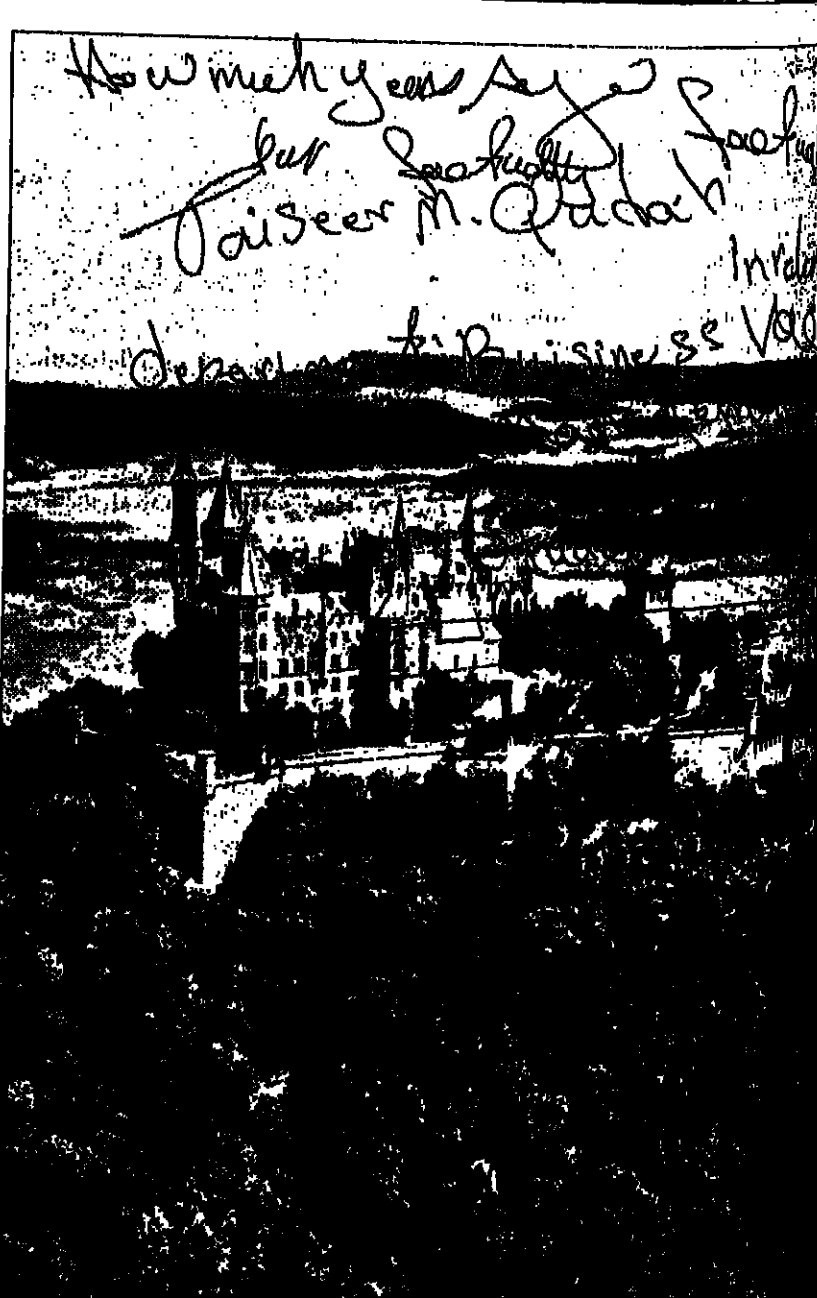
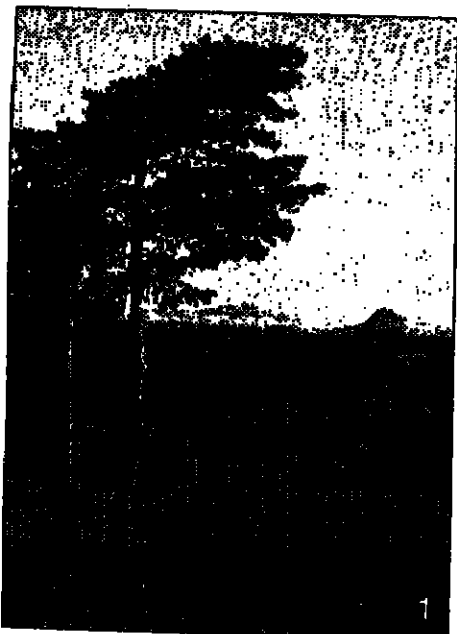
German roads will get you there. South of Stuttgart the Swabian Alb runs north-east from the Black Forest. It is a range of hills full of fossilised reminders of prehistory. It has a blustery but healthy climate, so have good walking shoes with you and scale a few heights as you try out some of the 6,250 miles of marked paths. Dense forests, caves full of stalactites and stalagmites, ruined castles and rocks that invite you to clamber will ensure variety.

You will also see what you can't see from a car: rare flowers and plants. The route runs over 125 miles through health resorts and nature reserves, passing Baroque churches, late Gothic and Rococo architecture and Hohenzollern Castle, home of the German Imperial family.

Visit Germany and let the Swabian Alb Route be your guide.

- 1 View of the Hegau region, near Tuttlingen
- 2 Heidenheim
- 3 Nördlingen
- 4 Urach
- 5 Hohenzollern Castle

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## Deployment casts uncertain mood over East, West

Robert Stadt-Anzeiger

Uncertainty has been the main mood on both sides of the Iron Curtain as the West's missile deployment has become a reality.

In Moscow, the Soviet leader, Mr. Andropov, who is meant to be seriously ill, has been bombarding Western leaders with letters. The tone has been halfway between hope and fear.

Obviously the Soviet Union has no idea what its policy on arms control should be.

Nato, and especially in Bonn, the West has been crystal-ball gazing along lines of: Will Moscow return to the conference table? And if so, when?

The West is a little diffident. It does not expect anything miraculous like the collapse of all five nuclear powers.

There are three avenues of approach. First, there has been much talk about Mitterrand playing inter-mediar.

But no one knows if he wants to. The does, how he would go about it.

The French President is a staunch supporter of Western missile deployment and cannot lay claim to any kind of special relationship with the Kremlin.

He would do anything rather than in France's nuclear missiles in the West for a fresh session of missile poker.

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That is one of Moscow's main de-  
terminants in the medium-range missile vec-

tor, resumption of at least to be a  
hope even though the superpo-

seem to be going round in circles.  
There are absolutely no signs

of a trend that might provide me-  
dium-range missiles with a fresh niche at

The US government would thus prefer to avoid complications it at all possible.

Third and last, many Western politicians are keenly looking forward to the conference in confidence-building measures and disarmament in Europe that is due to start in Stockholm on 17 January.

East, West and the neutrals are carefully preparing for a gathering that seems sure to last years, and in many cases there will be hopes of at least politico-psychological bridges being built to cover medium-range missiles.

Yet no-one can seriously imagine the two superpowers allowing their nuclear arsenals to be debated by the 35 delegations to the European disarmament conference.

The structure and objectives of the Stockholm conference might still in the long term point the way to a solution to the dilemma.

The emphasis must be on the concept of confidence-building. The burden of mistrust weighing so heavily on the superpowers is the basic reason why no headway is being made on disarmament.

Maybe the road to effective arms control is really paved with laborious bids to come gradually closer politically and militarily and with good intentions drafted in treaty form.

That is the Stockholm concept, but it is a long-term prospect. Given the deterioration in the overall climate of East-West ties, the basic handicap is the decision by both sides to limit themselves to the missiles issue.

The West in particular has been criminally negligent in its disregard for the political regrouping position.

Herr Genscher has appreciated this point and called for an overall political concept combining firmness on deployment and fresh stimuli on detente, confidence-building and cooperation.

He has visions of a concept that might make Moscow more readily inclined to



EEC leaders meet in Athens. From left, President Mitterrand, Premier Papandreu and Chancellor Kohl. (Photo: dpa)

reopen the debate on medium-range missiles.

Yet why not let matters take their course given that Western deployment is intended to redress the balance of power in Europe?

The crisis doesn't lend itself to so easy a solution. The Geneva talks breakdown has shown that both pacts are in the throes of serious political difficulties.

It may be a little early to talk in terms of a struggle for power in the Kremlin, but the course talks have taken since Mr. Brezhnev's death has revealed conflicting Soviet interests, especially in the final phase of Geneva talks.

The latest reactions by the Warsaw Pact, from Bucharest to East Berlin, show how unenthusiastic Moscow's so-called satellites are about the new Soviet missile plans for their territory.

The West is at least equally badly off-balance politically, caught between the dual-track Nato decision and American thinking as the West's leading power.

Nato is committed to a dual-track ap-

Continued on page 2

## Crucial items on Athens EEC agenda

EEC heads of state and government did not arrive in Athens for their three-day summit with any great expectations.

It was generally agreed that the summit would be one of the most important in the Common Market's history.

Bonn Chancellor Helmut Kohl envisaged no more than the prospect of approving "specific guidelines for further treatment of outstanding issues."

In spite of many special conferences the Council of Ministers has failed to reduce the negotiation package made up at the last EEC summit in Stuttgart to a reasonable number of political options.

On the basic issues, the reform of agricultural policy and the future sharing of financial burdens, little has been achieved in recent months over and above a comparison of differing national viewpoints.

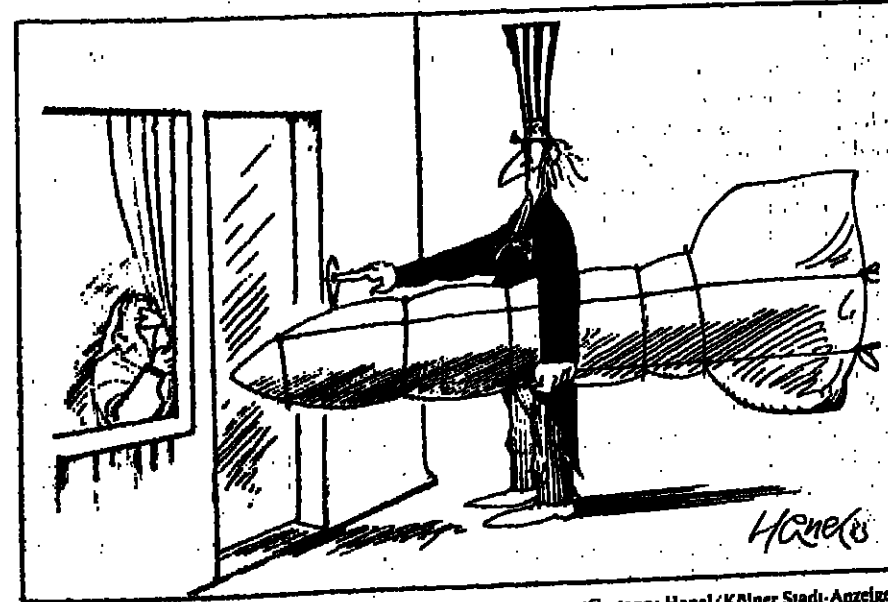
Yet time is short, with the European Community fast running out of funds. Cash available is definitely not enough to award Common Market farmers their spring increase in farm price guarantees next year.

There were serious disputes prior to the summit on the course deliberations were to take. They reflected the differing priorities held in individual EEC capitals.

Greek Premier Andreas Papandreu wrote to his fellow-heads of government suggesting they start by discussing agricultural problems and deal later with budgetary issues, including the problem of Britain's contribution to EEC funds.

Mrs. Thatcher wanted budget problems to head the agenda.

Wilhelm Hadler  
(Die Welt, 5 December 1983)



Express delivery from Washington

(Cartoon: Hanel/Kellner Stadt-Anzeiger)

## WORLD AFFAIRS

## Soviet propaganda machine whips up siege fever

These are strange days in Moscow, with people talking about war as if it were inevitable. The Soviet leaders are talking in terms of a situation more tense than at any time since the Second World War.

The Soviet public is likely to conclude that a trial of strength with the United States is unavoidable.

People are being warned that times may lie ahead in which belts must be taken in a notch of two. Soviet leaders are promising to meet every demand of the military machine.

At the same time people are given to understand that the military is prepared for the trial of strength that is evidently expected.

The KGB is warning against enemies at home and abroad and calls on people to be increasingly vigilant about everything foreign.

The Soviet Press testifies to fears of encirclement with its reports of missile-mad Germans, Italians, French and British in Western Europe.

In the Far East there is made out to be an alliance against the Soviet Union consisting of Japan, South Korea and the United States.

In the Middle East the entire Arab world is said to have ganged up on Moscow's client-state Syria, while in the Caribbean Cuba and its brigade of "construction workers" have lost face in Grenada.

Moscow stands to derive no benefit from the Gulf war between Iraq and Iran, while in Afghanistan the Soviet forces are pretty well holed up.

China too does not allow the Soviet Union the leeway Moscow would dearly like to have in dealing with the United States in the Far East.

Patriotic fervor is being whipped up everywhere. With sights set on America as the enemy and the Soviet motherland encircled from Europe to the Far East, fears that were merely set aside in the détente 1970s have been resurrected.

No-one can be trusted, the Soviet public are told, and the entire world has nothing but evil designs on Soviet communists.

The conclusion reached in Moscow is that American policy amounts to a bid to destroy communism. Russia would appreciate respect, but recognition isn't there for the asking.

The Soviet Union is derided by America and, in many cases, by other Western countries too. Scorn is heaped on both Soviet policy and the Soviet economy.

Soviet propaganda is aimed in return at weak spots in the Western system, and unemployment, inflation, stagnation and resignation are all there for the asking.

These Western shortcomings are laid bare and presented to the Soviet public, but the Soviet public, and young people in particular, continue to be attracted by the latest Western innovations.

Moscow left no stone unturned in its bid to boost its worldwide position in America's weak years following the Vietnam debacle.

Yet now it lays claim to rules of the game that are said to have applied since the revolution: "Let the American capitalists leave us in peace, we will undertake nothing against them" (Lenin).

The conviction that America is aiming not just at worldwide containment of the Soviet Union but at the destruction of the Soviet system is evident in every discussion with Soviet officials.

"Germany isn't America," Soviet commentators told Bonn MPs on the eve of the Bundestag decision on missile deployment, calling on the Germans to pursue national policies.

Moscow continues in spite of deployment to see the Federal Republic of Germany as the key to Europe. Russia remains fascinated, for better or for worse, by the Germans.

On the German Question the Soviet Union could be good for a number of surprises in the decade ahead.

Not for nothing has Moscow called on the Germans to pursue policies based on national ideas at a time when the GDR leaders are feeling that way inclined too.

The Soviet Union may not have achieved its foreign policy objective, that of preventing the deployment of new US missile systems.

But the Soviet politbureau could equally well argue that all had not been in vain. Who would venture to claim that the damage to relations between the United States and West Germany can be swiftly remedied?

The seeds of mistrust of Washington that have been sown will take firm root. The Social Democrats' protestations of loyalty to Nato have a decidedly hollow ring to them at present.

It remains to be seen whether it was right, and politically more important, to take a firm stand in relations with Moscow and not succumb to pressure rather than to give way and keep the damage to German-American relations down to a minimum.

It certainly gives food for thought to hear a senior US diplomat in Moscow

admit that from the military viewpoint deployment was not, of course, absolutely essential.

It would doubtless be wrong to infer from the lengthy absence of the Soviet leader at a time when Moscow is called onto arrive at political decisions that there is a leadership crisis in the Kremlin.

Russia is less dependent on any one individual than probably any other country, as evidenced by the historic treatment of Soviet politicians other than Lenin.

Marshal Kutuzov, the Russian military leader in the Napoleonic wars, or a number of Tsars as operationally idealised by the Bolsheviks have been more soundly ensconced than some recent Party leaders.

The leadership is interchangeable, room for manoeuvre limited and the public so remote from the leaders that a shrug of the shoulders is the usual answer when friends are asked what hopes they have of this or that political development or personality.

That isn't to imply that no credence is given to propaganda. The Soviet public is not in a position to distinguish between the West's real intentions and what Soviet propaganda makes them out to be.

There is no such thing as a wide range of views on this point. There is only one viewpoint on everything. The public is largely unaware that there is another side to Mr Andropov's arguments on medium-range missiles.

Soviet propaganda is effective, and a surprising number of Soviet citizens trust it. They thus believe that Western nuclear armament is for warlike ends, whereas Soviet armament is aimed solely at preserving peace.

The war talk of a detached and virtually invisible leadership that calls for

## A Chinese view of the missiles issue

further notice, neither at the conference table nor under pressure from the peace movement.

In recent months various Chinese politicians have suddenly begun to voice sympathy with the peace movement. That is unusual inasmuch as Chinese leaders used to tend to regard Western opponents of the arms build-up as mere stoop-pigeons of the Kremlin.

Yet if the protestations of sympathy are read in full there will be no mistaking the ambivalence and mixed views to which they testify.

Official ideology may require China to show solidarity with the masses. Sympathy is also motivated by a desire to appear to the Third World as an independent power with views of its own.

But Peking is at pains to emphasise that China is opposed to bids by Moscow to make political capital out of the peace movement and to divide and weaken Western Europe and bring it under its control.

China agrees with Nato that Soviet superiority in the conventional sector

discipline and harder work by bringing about an unpleasant situation. Many people have been taken by the campaigns launched by Andropov took over power.

The anti-missile campaign, denunciation of Soviet policy in spite of many evident shortcomings, and the glorification of everything else has been out a case for tolerance.

They ought even to prompt the East of the impatience and the East of the other side, the West.

At a time when people could not and would not live, and live especially in the Soviet Union, it is pressing that the Soviet leaders do something of the kind to offer.

Instead, they are painting a picture of inevitable war.

It is depressing when speeded forth no prospect of hope and no one tries to strike a balance, an atmosphere of political intolerance.

Peter Schönbach (Rheinischer Merkur/China) 2 December

## Deployment

Continued from page 1

prouch consisting of defence preparedness and readiness to negotiate. At present only the former seems fully operative.

Bonn is out a limb, having demonstrated its loyalty to Nato by accepting the head of the Dresdner Bank, Pershing 2. It must now devote all hearted effort to remedying the damage.

That first and foremost means to clear to Germany's friends in the West States that the desire for over-reliance in East-West relations is not self enough.

There have been several similar in recent years, but all have been in Moscow's direction.

After Geneva an offer of compromise understanding is needed between the missile-counting is going to be while again.

Thomas Meyer (Kölnischer Stadt-Anzeiger, 5 December)

and in medium-range nuclear missiles has forced the West to bridge the gap. Unlike Nato, Peking does not see this case is not based on dereliction of deployment of Pershing 2 and missiles merely in terms of reducing the regional nuclear balance.

It is described in a commentary by New China news agency as an attempt by President Reagan in the world struggle with the USSR to regain military superiority over Moscow.

In the end, the Chinese argue, will strengthen the hand of forces in the world that strive for peace and security.

This assurance is given not just cheap consolation but as the result of materialist dialectics.

Karl Kricheldorf (Süddeutsche Zeitung, 29 November)

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## HOME AFFAIRS

## Bundestag lifts immunity from minister

Köln: Stadt-Anzeiger

The way been cleared for Bonn Economic Minister Count Otto Lambsdorff to be charged with bribery.

The Bundestag has voted in favour of lifting the privilege of immunity from prosecution. Count Lambsdorff, a Free Democrat, himself voted for it.

He is alleged to have accepted a total of DM135,000 from the Flick industrial group in return for waiving tax liability on the sale of shares.

The money is said to have been put in a private fund. It has not been suggested that Count Lambsdorff used it for personal gain.

Originally, the charges were to have been granting favours for a considerable period (Vorteilsnahme), but the more serious charge of bribery has been preferred.

Those involved in the accusations included the head of the Dresdner Bank, Friderichs, who is a former Bonn Economic Affairs Minister, and former Bonn-Rhine-Westphalia Economic Affairs Minister Horst-Ludwig Riemer. Both are members of the FDP.

Other employees Eberhard von Braunschweig and Manfred Nemitz are alleged to have paid over the money in a bid to win the tax relief.

Both accused deny having paid or received any money.

The prosecution has dropped its investigations of Flick himself and the politicians Liselotte Funcke (FDP), Manfred Lahnstein (SPD), Hans-Joachim Lahnstein (SPD), Rudolf Eberle (CDU) and further action is being taken.

Prosecutor Franzbrunn Lulencamp has stepped up the change to bribery on the basis of new evidence.

The case is not based on dereliction of duty or a wrong decision by Lambsdorff in the tax relief.

It is based on Section 332 of the Criminal Code which provides that a government official who, for a considerable period, has agreed to permit himself to be influenced in exercising his discretionary powers can be charged with bribery.

The prosecution assumes that the politicians knew the purpose of the cash payments and were prepared to let the politicians influence their decisions.

Although Lulencamp has refused to disclose his evidence, he has rejected the suggestion that there was something unusual about the list of cash payouts kept by a Flick employee called Diehl. He said the list was kept in accordance with book-keeping practices.

A Bonn court is now sifting the evidence to determine whether the prosecution case warrants a trial. The accused have been given a deadline for presenting their cases.

Friderichs, who is now chairman of the Dresdner Bank, has asked to be temporarily relieved of his duties if he has to face charges in court.

Lambsdorff has intimated that he would do the same.

Heinz-Joachim Melder (Kölnischer Stadt-Anzeiger, 30 November 1983)



Count Lambsdorff (Photo: Poly-Press)



Friderichs



Riemer



von Brauchitsch



Nemitz

(Photos: Sven Simon 2, dpa 2)

## Lambsdorff strongly denies allegations of bribery

Bonn Economic Affairs Minister Count Otto Lambsdorff (FDP) strongly denies that he has taken bribes from the Flick industrial group.

"I have neither asked for nor received a mark from Flick during my time as minister," he has told the Bonn Cabinet.

Count Lambsdorff is regarded by many as the most important architect behind the Free Democrats' swing from the Social Democrats to the conservatives last year. He is a staunch champion of the Liberal cause in the Bonn Cabinet.

He is an important Cabinet figure for Chancellor Helmut Kohl, because he is keeping Franz Josef Strauss (CSU) out of the Economic Affairs Ministry.

Lambsdorff was born in Aachen in 1926 and went to school in Berlin. He was badly injured during the war, was taken prisoner and returned home with a permanent disability.

After studying law and political science, he went into banking and, in

1971, became board member of an insurance company.

In 1977, he succeeded Hans Friderichs as Bonn Minister of Economic Affairs.

He was the treasurer of the North Rhine-Westphalian FDP until 1978, later becoming the party's deputy state chairman. He is now a member of the FDP's national executive.

He has adamantly denied all accusations levelled against him, calling them "political campaigns" and "unprecedented prejudgements by the press, especially (weeklies) Spiegel and Stern."

He stresses that this makes a fair trial impossible.

He sees himself as the focal point of "the biggest judicial scandal since the Federal Republic of Germany came into being."

He has denied any intention of resigning.

dpa (Mannheimer Morgen, 30 November 1983)

## Flick case only a part of the long-running party contributions affair

The events usually referred to as the Flick case only entered a new phase when the Bonn prosecutor's office decided to press charges.

The affair has been making headlines for years. It has been fuelled by constant disclosures in the Press, the setting up of two parliamentary inquiry committees and the resignations of two presidents of the National Federation of German Industry (BDI).

The prosecution's investigations, dating back to 1975, involved several complex processes.

Some 100 companies and many of their staff were under suspicion of having for years been transferring funds to political parties through front organisations, with the full knowledge and approval of politicians.

They money was entered in the books as operating costs and deducted from taxable income, making the defendants guilty of tax evasion.

The investigation led to the resignation of the BDI president at the time, Nikolaus Fasolt, after his failure to contest a tax department fine.

The second major point of investigation was the Flick affair.

Here, the prosecution suspected the

Düsseldorf-based Flick concern of having used party donations to obtain tax relief on a major equity deal.

The deal involved the 1975 sale to Deutsche Bank of a 29 per cent stake in Daimler-Benz.

The bank paid Flick DM2bn for the block of shares and, in doing so, headed off a bid by the Shah of Iran.

Only a short while earlier, Kuwait had bought a 14 per cent stake in Daimler-Benz. This had caused considerable fear among company board members that the Arabs were moving in.

Flick wanted to re-invest his book profits of DM1.8bn (DM2bn less the DM200m balance sheet value of the stock), paying as little tax as possible.

So the group applied to use a section of tax laws which stipulated that profits from the sale of stock could be re-invested in other equities free of tax, though not without strings: the Finance and Economic Affairs Ministries had to classify the transaction as beneficial to the national economy as a whole or to a particular branch of industry.

After extensive evaluation, Flick was given the green light. Some of the money went into capital increases for Flick's

own subsidiaries such as Dynamit Nobel, Buderus and Feldmühle. Another large amount went into equities in the American Grace Corp., where Flick bought a 31 per cent stake (DM800m), and the Cologne-based Gerlin Insurance.

It is unlikely that there will be a repeat of the Flick affair. A 1982 Bonn law now stipulates that 20 per cent of profits from equity sales are taxable and payable immediately. This applies specifically to deals where the profits are re-invested in enterprises beneficial to the national economy.

The Bundestag Inquiry Committee has been dealing with the Flick affair since 9 June without making much progress.

A similar committee in North Rhine-Westphalia, set up following a motion by the Opposition/CDU, discontinued in October. It had taken a year to get nowhere.

In 1981, Eberhard von Brauchitsch, the president elect of the BDI, resigned when the press reported that the prosecutor's office was investigating alleged payments from a Flick slush fund.

Later, Brauchitsch, who was also the chief executive of Flick, resigned from this post as well.

(Westdeutsche Allgemeine, 30 November 1983)



## VIEWPOINT

# After deployment: avenues towards a reduction in world tension

This article was written by former Bonn Chancellor Helmut Schmidt for the weekly *Die Zeit*. Herr Schmidt holds a senior editorial position with the paper.

Parliamentary decisions on missile deployment by the West have been reached in London and Rome and, above all, in Bonn.

They have been registered with a certain degree of relief from Tokyo and Singapore to the capitals of Western Europe and Washington D.C.

In view of the large-scale psycho-political challenge presented by the Soviet Union as a superpower the West has seen fit to demonstrate its solidarity and ability to take political action.

Even in the capital cities of eastern and south-eastern Central Europe fears may have been allayed that the West might have been prepared to allow itself to be manoeuvred into a position where it could have been inclined to surrender its freedom of action.

But any such alarm will initially have been fairly remote and fears of this kind are not going to be voiced in public.

Yet at the same time the breakdown, at least for the moment, of the Geneva talks and the reasons for it, the circumstances and feelings that accompanied the deployment decision in the Federal Republic of Germany and the further Soviet missile build-up promptly heralded in return by Mr Andropov have made a number of worries come clearly to the fore.

This applies in equal measure to the Russians. Their hopes of a decisive psychological decoupling of Western Europe, and especially the Germans, from the United States and its leadership have not been fulfilled.

Their combination of threat and intimidation and a simultaneous beckoning with understanding and readiness to cooperate has failed to do the trick.

Moscow's twofold strategy may have made many people more worried about American missiles and US policy, but many more Europeans have not allowed that to cloud over their appreciation of reality.

They know that freedom of the individual and the freedom of entire peoples and states are threatened by the East, not by the West.

They also realise that the United States is defending this freedom Europeans enjoy, not jeopardising it.

Moscow's hope of a favourable operative outcome of the peace movement's activities in terms of Soviet striving for hegemony has not been fulfilled.

If the Kremlin based its hopes on this prospect in rejecting the summer 1982 "walk in the woods" proposal, which would have spared the Russians the stationing of any Pershing 2s in Europe, then it can only be said to have made a serious mistake in being unwilling to compromise on this point.

The secrecy that has become second nature at the top in the Soviet Union since Stalin's days has led to the emergence of Kremlinology as a special sector of political science in the West.

It is almost always a waste of time to read the Kremlinologists' analyses and forecasts in detail. It is better to rely on Russian history: from Ivan I to Ivan the

Terrible and Peter the Great, and from Lenin and his three successors to Andropov.

The inside story of the Soviet leadership may be largely hidden from view. There are certainly no straight answers to the following questions:

How seriously handicapped is Mr Andropov by illness? How powerful is he politically? Who might his successor be? How much does the politbureau know about the West? How strong is military influence on it?

The Soviet Union has evidently gone to great lengths militarily for years, spending up to about 12 per cent of GNP on defence without any apparent let-up and by dint of constant economic exertion.

It clearly suffers from encirclement, persecution and security complexes. Traditional Russian expansionism is also evident.

Fear of a large-scale war and the desire for peace with the West are also self-evident. They are why the Soviet leadership is so careful and calculating. Occasional errors of judgement such as Afghanistan are the exception that proves the rule.

For centuries the Russians have been able and willing to suffer too. This together with an unconditional patriotism regardless whether the man at the top is a Tsar or Stalin.

The tradition of the "collectors of Russian soil" has been combined with the ideology of a form of society and state promising salvation in this world rather than the hereafter.

The West must realise that this will remain the case, missiles or no missiles. It must also appreciate that it is unable to change this state of affairs.

Any attempt to change it by superior power could prove fatal for all concerned.

## 6 Walk-in-the-woods rejection may have been a serious error by the Kremlin

But the Russians know much less about the West than we know about the East. Khrushchev in his day grossly underestimated Kennedy in believing he could run the risk of stationing missiles in Cuba.

That was an exception from the rule of a cautious tradition of expansionism. But after Khrushchev the Soviet leaders felt they had sized up America (and the West as a whole) rightly.

Their feeling was confirmed in connection with the brutal suppression of the reform communist government in Prague in 1968, with the treaty banning nuclear tests in the atmosphere, with the non-proliferation treaty, the Salt and ABM agreements, the Four-Power Berlin Agreement and the Final Act at Helsinki.

The Soviet leaders have kept to their treaties but felt themselves free otherwise, which was why the Red Fleet was enlarged, SS-20 missiles were deployed in Europe and Asia, Vietnamese imperialism was backed in South-East Asia, war was waged in Afghanistan and the Russians established themselves in the Horn of Africa, elsewhere in Africa, the

Middle East and, finally, Central America.

The Russians felt they could have four things simultaneously:

1. strategic nuclear parity with the United States on a treaty basis;  
2. a military build-up outside the weapons sectors for which treaty arrangements had been made;

3. detente and cooperation in Europe; and  
4. expansion outside Europe.

Since President Carter assumed office the Russians have had to increasingly appreciate that this combination will no longer work.

After the shrewd, balance of power-orientated strategy of the Nixon-Ford-Kissinger era they felt Carter's human rights programme was a challenge and interference.

The Russians had always excluded the "ideological contest" from coexistence, but they were disappointed and outraged at a Western President announcing his intention of launching a counter-attack in the ideological sector.

Today the Kremlin is bound to appreciate that it has triggered an ideological backlash in the United States that is being handled much more radically by President Reagan than by his predecessor.

They are finding it hard to realise that they themselves may be to blame. They also find it hard to understand Mr Reagan's overall strategy.

If Mr Gromyko, Mr Arbatov and Mr Dobrynin were all to depart from the scene the Kremlin might well be left without anyone at all in its upper echelons who was capable of understanding or interpreting America.

This incapacity is potentially dangerous. The Soviet leaders understand the equations of power and counter-power. Intellectual, psychological and political processes in America, with its TV democracy, are insufficiently comprehensible and predictable for them.

It could be that they felt, being conscious of how unpredictable the Americans were, they had to be prepared for the worst.

Their lack of knowledge about the free West and the United States in particular could be remedied. The West is not a closed book, in contrast to the traditional xenophobia of Russia.

The Russians must be invited in large numbers to get to know the West. If they did, they would in all probability come to appreciate one point.

It is that in spite of the appearance of instability in overall Western strategy over the past 40 years the Americans have always kept to the basic line of containment, of containing Soviet expansion.

They will continue to do so. "The main element of any US policy toward the Soviet Union must be that of a long-term, patient but firm and vigilant containment of Russian expansive tendencies," George F. Kennan wrote in a key sentence of his 1947 Mr X article. It will continue to apply.

It would be in the interest of world peace if the current break in negotiations were to be used by the Kremlin leaders to arrive at inner clarity on this basic outline of American strategy.

The Soviet Union has no intention of waging war on either America or Eur-

ope, so at present and in the future there is no need to doubt the Soviet Union's peace movement.

But the Soviet leadership must itself what it has done wrong. It is foolish and seemingly warring speechmaking to have been made both sides.

It must ask itself whether, and at what risk, it needs to reply to missile deployment by the West with a fresh arms build-up of its own.

It must also ask itself whether it ought to allow its overall strategy to depend on a purely military countermove to a purely military security concept.

The same question arises in Moscow. There too speeches that would have been better not made have been made in recent years.

Much too much thought has been given in the face of the course of events. Peace demonstrators' main worry that their movement might either disintegrate or bow out with a whimper.

The departure of the old elite, both Democratic and Republican, from effective foreign and domestic policy has led to an approach that is far too blunt, turning the Roosevelt upside down, as it were.

## 6 The Russians must be invited in large numbers to get to know the West

Speak softly and carry a big stick is his motto. The current trend is to loudly and seemingly threateningly, while at the same time almost completely to the independent, church wing of the peace movement saw fit to oppose the peace movement.

This could lead to dangerous misunderstandings in the Kremlin. It has already had a detrimental effect on America's allies in Europe, especially the Germans.

Washington itself is to blame for the peace movement. This is a Reagan administration must be made to appreciate, with appropriate conclusions being reached for the future.

The United States and its allies in Western Europe have a reciprocal duty of each other. This being so, no European politician ought to encourage developments prejudicial to America's security.

By the same token, no American leadership ought to neglect the interests of the Europeans.

There are lessons Washington must learn from the reactions of many Europeans:

1. On European issues America must not simply negotiate bilaterally with the Russians over the Europeans' heads. The Europeans need to feel they are involved.

2. By virtue of nearly 1,000 years of common history the Europeans know Russia better than people can be expected to in Georgia or California. The West should be made of this European knowledge.

3. The Europeans want not just security but also detente and cooperation with the Soviet Union. The pause for thought that has begun could well be used to call to attention the conclusion reached by three "men" in 1956.

They were Martino of Italy, Lange of Norway and Pearson of Canada, who had to say to the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation: "A feeling that the pact was that there should be no consultations between Americans and

Continued on page 5

## PERSPECTIVE

# The peace movement avoids two of its major fears

The movement must first find out what the Rogers Plan and the air-land battle concept and what forward defence really are and mean, and it must not go in for dangerous topics.

One such topic is the new German nationalism, which as yet is merely vaguely perceptible and discussed in books, circles and back rooms.

It has emerged from the feeling of powerlessness in the face of the great powers and the joint role of the two German states as a battlefield and test-bed in the nuclear age.

"But we don't feel the demand for withdrawal from Nato is right at present," Zummach says. "No country, and certainly not the Federal Republic of Germany, will be able to withdraw individually from Nato."

It is hard to believe the peace movement is prepared to come to terms with so little utopia. Its forte has so far been its ability to outline contrasts to the world as it is.

Its claim that we must pull out of *realpolitik* before it was too late, as it were, was most effective. Movements rely on vague ideas, on visions.

They draw up alternative worlds where everything is possible: peace, freedom from force, history at a standstill.

The peace movement is behaving in exactly the same manner as the Bonn government. It would like to keep matters in a state of flux, avoiding clear associations and assignments.

Breadth is more important than clarity. Why change what has so far been such a success? The peace movement has long made its breakthrough into the institutions. But for it the SPD would never have changed so strikingly.

The trade unions are slowly showing greater readiness to accept peace movement views, while the churches are increasingly coming to the fore.

The Christian Democrats are trying hard to batten down the hatches. The peace movement, no matter how sensitive, self-willed and disconcerting it may be, has emerged as a power in its own right.

Continued from page 4  
Europeans before every decision in respect of Nato.

If this code of procedure continues to be disregarded as it was in respect of the Olympic boycott, various economic embargoes and the "walk in the woods" proposal, not even the best overall strategy of containment in Washington will be sufficient to stem the tide of a decline in confidence within the alliance.

In the long run Europe is not going to stand for breaches of the right of self-determination, a common value shared on both sides of the Atlantic.

What is needed is a conscious reversion to the joint dual strategy decided by Nato in 1967 and at no time since waived: that of both adequate political solidarity and military defence capability and, on this sound and firm foundation, cooperation and detente with the Soviet Union.

In the long run a strong defence policy in Europe can only be implemented if the will to carry out the second half of the dual philosophy outlined in the Harmel Report seriously exists.

It may well imagine that all it needs to do is carry on as hitherto to force the government to do what it failed to achieve this time and make sure the missile deployment decision is reversed.

At the Bonn meeting this view of the situation prevailed as though it was a matter of course. The campaigns were to go ahead as planned, in keeping with a Communist representative's dictum that people learn most via action.

Stopping to think, as proposed by Zummach, will have to wait. It will be dealt with by and by, as it were.

A fresh round of blockades and demonstrations is scheduled for on and around 12 December, the anniversary of the day four years ago when the Nato countries reached agreement on the dual-track decision.

Activities are envisaged at Mutlangen, the US Pershing 2 base near Stuttgart, at a Pershing depot in Frankfurt, and in Bonn. They will show what morale is like.

The next so-called National Resistance Day is on 31 January. The peace movement has no qualms at equating missiles deployment with the Nazi take-over of power in 1933.

It continues to advocate its grotesque view of history, grotesque partly inasmuch as it itself has at times been compared with the Nazis.

Its slogan will be that the anti-missile movement must be transformed into an anti-militarism movement strictly opposing atomic, biological and chemical weapons and conventional as well as nuclear warfare.

The forms of resistance — civil disobedience and non-violence — will be the same.

Josef Leinen, re-elected chairman of the national executive of environmental groups, has even more in mind. He is in favour of taking social conflict over unemployment and the 35-hour week into account.

It is, he says, political capital that is there to be used. So much for politics on the drawing board. Because the movement must grow and grow if it is not

to stultify, any social conflict available must be harnessed to the bandwagon.

Leinen is no on his own with such ideas. At the Bonn meeting Lukas Beckmann, business manager of the Greens, the environmental party in the Bundestag, took the theory of the peace movement's new identity even further.

"We are," he said, "a popular movement as in Chile or Poland. We have merely yet to become conscious of the fact."

The Greens too are more interested in action than in debate, and more is to be done than hitherto. What and how?

The Greens pride themselves on having set new standards, but only a few privileged MPs can demonstrate on Alexanderplatz in East Berlin or on Red Square in Moscow.

The madness of running ever greater risks and breaking more and more taboos entails dangers of its own.

Views clash on aims and objectives and over influence and power in the peace movement as in any other. They do so in the coordinating committee, where sides are taken by Leinen, who is still a Social Democrat, and Beckmann of the Greens.

Leinen is the victim of aggression because he has no objection to being regarded, wordsmith that he is, as the representative of the peace movement.

He is a constant visitor at SPD headquarters in Bonn and it was he who arranged for SPD leader Willy Brandt to speak at the final Bonn rally in October.

There are many objections to Leinen, but especially for going it alone, and the Greens make no bones about what upsets them.

The peace movement is linked, via Leinen, with the SPD. These close relations must, the Greens say, be severed. Their main enemy is not the Bonn government but the Opposition SPD.

The Social Democrats have changed beyond recognition in comparison with the views they espoused when they held power in Bonn.

The peace movement feels so strong that it carefully engages in hours of infighting from which a moral victor fails to emerge.

But its officials are too self-centred and spend too little time on self-criticism. Mutlangen is besieged by only a handful of pacifists, but the missiles are there behind the fence.

The "struggle" continues.  
Gerhard Spörl  
(Die Zeit, 2 December 1983)

Ministers, but heads of state and government ought to conclude the process personally, albeit without pomp or propaganda.

Let them pave the way for a conference of the five nuclear powers. They must realise that the free world and the Soviet Union can only survive on a basis of mutual respect.

That makes compromise with the Soviet Union inevitable. It also makes face-saving inevitable, and cooperation too. A reversion to the dual philosophy of Pierre Harmel is urgently needed.

Talks with the East must not be allowed to peter out. Diplomacy must at long last regain its normal status.

The temptation to misunderstand dealings with a powerful yet sensitive external adversary as a pre-election campaign and to degrade foreign policy to the role of handmaiden of home affairs must be resisted.

The two sides must confer with each other in confidence. Moscow will be receptive to readiness to talk on the part of Western Ministers. Helmut Schmidt  
(Die Zeit, 2 December 1983)

## ADMINISTRATION

## Public servants' Bangkok junket among cases of squandered taxpayers' cash

Junkets by public servants and mis-spending by various Federal government departments and authorities are again under fire by the Federal audit office.

Its latest report covers charges of waste in 1981. It says hundreds of millions of marks are lost every year by carelessness.

The office's president, Karl Wittrock, says the very existence of the authority led to more discipline in the handling of public funds.

It was impossible to say how much was saved. But audit office reform plans for reform of one of the mine workers' pension funds had saved Bonn more than DM700m.

The office had also helped Bonn to save DM650m in the 1984 budget.

He said cases of outright and deliberate waste are rare. Most is because of carelessness, unthinking routine and stupid regulations.

It was deplorable that people who caused the waste were rarely made to account for what they had done.

The audit office report is examined in detail by the Bundestag's audit committee. Last year, most of the points raised were accepted by the committee and in some cases ministers were told to take action.

But bureaucracy seems to have an inexhaustible supply of explanations and

## STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG

excuses to justify criticised decisions, Wittrock said.

As usual, huge government enterprises such as the Bundesbahn, Germany's railway system, and the post office come under sharp scrutiny.

The auditors say the poor financial performance of the Bundesbahn is because of faults in the system.

They criticise its failure to adequately reduce special bonuses paid to workers.

Most workers continued to be paid to top rates and the annual cost rose from DM200m to DM350m.

In the freight car repair division alone additional wage payments cost over DM30m.

The report recognises that the Bundesbahn has eliminated some 100,000 jobs since 1974 but says it could have done more.

Some 200 offices could be done away with. This would cut the payroll by some 1,000.

The auditors also object to the compartmentalised accounting system dividing the operation into three.

One account dealt with government operations. The losses were included in that account. The Audit Office says the

accounting system is full of problems if for no other reason because the various sectors of Bundesbahn operations mesh.

The huge cost of electrification, for instance was charged to the state sector although equally helping the other two sectors by cutting energy costs.

The Audit Office suggests that the objectives be clarified before attempting to improve the accounting methods.

The post office was accused lack of thriftiness. Several million marks a year could be saved in the parcels service by streamlining operations.

Project planning of long-distance telephone exchanges is described as unsatisfactory. It had led to avoidable wrong investments.

The auditors also criticise the continued rise in the number of postal workers despite the fact that several thousand jobs could be eliminated.

Foreign travel by civil servants has always been part of the auditors' complaints.

An 11-day trip to Japan with stopovers in Hongkong and Bangkok by five senior officials of the Federal insurance office for white collar workers, is criticised.

The reason for the trip was the to get information on data processing installations.

The stopovers "had no official justification and the data information could have been obtained from the German representatives of the Japanese equipment suppliers.

The armed forces are also criticised. In one example, three officers of the Bundeswehr Medical Corps aged between 28 and 32 who had studied medicine at the expense of the Bundeswehr were pensioned off for "permanent disability."

Each was needlessly awarded monthly pensions for life of more than DM2,000.

Two had gone into private practice. Yet each would cost the government about DM800,000 at today's rates.

"The citizen who worries about old age security is bound to be at a loss to understand that somebody who has spent only nine years in the Bundeswehr can draw a disability pension of about DM2,300 a month while earning as a private practitioner," said Wittrock.

Another military criticism was over the naval destroyer *Schleswig Holstein*, which was fitted with a new Sonar installation. But someone forgot to take soundings in the port of Wilhelmshaven.

The destroyer is not fully operational and the port had to be dredged at considerable cost. The total waste of taxpayers' money: more than DM500,000.

In 1980, the Federal Office for Labour Protection and Accident Research ordered some 50,000 T-shirts bearing a special insignia at a cost of DM230,000. Few were sold. The rest, worth DM200,000, are lying around in the basement.

Former Interior Minister Gerhart Baum equipped his Ministry with 677 typewriters of which 350 at the most were needed.

The minister also arranged for not only his anteroom but also the sports department, the telephone exchange, the telex room and the doorman's cubicle to get TV sets.

Peter Roller

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 23 November 1983)

## Commission up to slash red tape

A Federal commission is set up to try and cut red tape. It is headed by Horst Waffenschmidt, parliamentary state secretary at the Ministry.

His appointment comes heels of a report handed to the Bundestag by CDU MP Herbert Helmholtz.

In it, he said that speeches and complaints were not enough to march of bureaucratisation.

The report was compiled by a red-tape society which Helmholtz is to be a member of the commission.

The 233-page report is the Republic's first detailed study of the fight against red tape by the economic policies. The current up-

The chairman of the Bundestag, Josef Strauss, said that Bavaria and Baden-Württemberg were now spearheading the struggle against unnecessary and redundant laws and regulations.

Strauss, who received the report, there is no patent remedy to problems and regulations in one fell swoop. This could only be achieved by a step.

Helmrich and fellow MPs from parties who back his cause agreed. Strauss, saying: "The root of the problem lies in details, and this is what has to be attacked."

The paper deals with a lot of details: better relations between state and civil servant, more inter-departmental assistance for business, improvements in planning procedures and motor vehicle licensing.

Helmrich: "The states have perhaps more to do than the federal government. He told Strauss that it was now up to the states alone to go any further."

Horst Waffenschmidt, who heads the commission, wants to come up with first specific proposals next spring.

He would like to receive suggestions from all parts of society.

Waffenschmidt wants to limit the number of new regulations.

Each Ministry is to have its own commissioner, a senior civil servant to monitor these.

The commission also wants to push the citizen can benefit directly from the deregulation drive.

The Interior Ministry is thinking of streamlining building regulations, business provisions and spatial plans.

Wherever possible, regulations that hamper investment, employment and vocational training are to be eliminated.

"Private initiative must be provided with more scope as part of the change," says Waffenschmidt.

Helmrich and his backers also speak of a change: "For 200 years we thought that we could regulate life through government more and more, regulations and controls."

"Now we have to change, this provide more personal freedom, then faith in the state, impart more dynamism to business and avert the danger of a super-efficient administration."

Martin S. Landolt

(Hamburger Abendblatt, 25 November 1983)

## THE ECONOMY

## Shorten the working week, Bonn advisers say

reached new records in the past few years, interest rates are extremely high and social spending and average wages continue to rise.

Yet three million Americans found new jobs this year — something that should not have happened, say the German experts' theories.

But reality does not always agree with theory.

Most of the Five Wise Men still say that the main thing is to reduce deficits and wage costs to provide industry with the incentive to invest in new products and methods. This would also make it profitable for industry to boost its work force.

Germany's economic pundits attribute near magic powers to a balanced budget, as if this would eliminate the root of all evil.

Government debt must of course be reduced. Only a few SPD and union stalwarts still urge massive government spending programmes and oppose any cuts in social spending and government aid for sick industries.

The Council did not dissent on the need to reduce the government's interest payments on borrowing.

These payments cut up a lot of tax and prevent tax reductions. They also limit Bonn's room for manoeuvre in efforts to provide new jobs.

But a minority in the Council say Bonn should not in reducing debt because this would put the brakes on upturn.

The dissenters argued that the government should wait for the upturn to

It is perhaps ironic that a dissenting council member who is an advocate of free-market policies should have been one to point to the even greater success of the USA despite its heavy arms spending.

And it is indeed a fact that America has had a three per cent growth rate for a year against Germany's one per cent.

President Reagan's avowed policy has been to cut government spending and to sustain economic improvement.

But Reagan's deeds have not matched his words. America's Federal deficit has

been growing for years.

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Martin S. Landolt

(Hamburger Abendblatt, 25 November 1983)

## Five Wise Men urge caution on wage deals

Wage deals should not be too big or they will jeopardise growth and employment, say the Five Wise Men, or Bonn's council of economic advisers.

In their latest report they predict that gross incomes will rise by 4 per cent next year compared with 1 per cent this year.

Incomes from business and capital gains would remain high at 8 per cent, but this would still be below the 11 per cent of 1983.

The report is optimistic and was praised for its balance by the CDU/CSU parliamentary group. It expects growth next year to be between two and a half and three per cent and says there should be an improvement in world trade.

It also says that consumer prices will remain relatively stable, rising less than two per cent, that exports will be up four per cent in 1984, and that construction investments will rise seven per cent.

Unemployment would decline during next year, though not below an annual average of 2.25 million.

The Five Wise Men have essentially confirmed Bonn's economic policy course.

Bonn's decision to provide investment incentives and cut social and general spending was a correct one.

But they urge:

- Subsidies cuts;
- Privatisation of public sector services;
- Income tax relief and elimination of trading taxes;
- Reduction of wage costs in real terms and no shorter working hours through collective bargaining;
- More free enterprise in environmental protection;
- More self-reliance in the social security sector.

They say that there is no need for any additional economic action, but call for a reduction of obstacles to growth and for incentives for business.

The Hamburg-based HWWA Institute for Economic Research warns against an over-consolidation of the budget.

The German Institute for Economic Research, Berlin, considers further cuts in government spending to be wrong.

The Trade Union Federation criticises what it calls a wrong austerity policy and dismantling of social security provisions.

(Hamburger Abendblatt, 24 November 1983)

## Reasonable

The Five Wise Men have therefore for the first time called for shorter working hours. They said that even the metalworkers union's demand for a 35-hour work week could have positive effects, given pay moderation.

This backs the unions without giving them a blank cheque.

Still, most arguments and the wishes of the work force itself speak in favour of premature retirement and more flexible working time arrangements for individual companies.

The Five Wise Men have demonstrated a bit of *Realpolitik*: their suggestions are feasible. They could defuse the coming round of collective bargaining if the parties to it were prepared to get off the beaten track.

Wolfgang Mauersberg  
(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 25 November 1983)

## The faces on the council

The Council of Economic Advisers, usually called the Five Wise Men, was set up 20 years ago.

The idea of a panel of experts to assess, observe and periodically report on economic developments was first mooted in the mid-1950s.

Main objective was to explore new forms of counselling that would help political decision making.

In 1963, the Bundestag unanimously established the council by legislation.

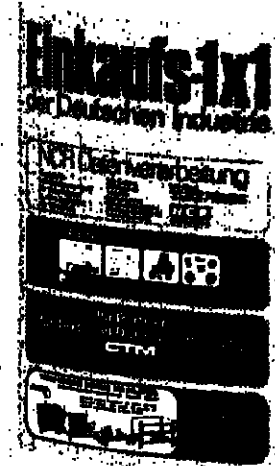
Each council member has specialised economic experience and training.

The present members are Professors Olaf Sievert (chairman), Ernst Helmstädter, Hans-Jürgen Krupp, Kurt Schmidt and Hans Karl Schneider.

Council members are proposed by the Bonn government and appointed by the president, usually for a five-year term.

(Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 25 November 1983)

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## ■ INDUSTRY

## Robots, biotechnology to get priority

Süddeutsche Zeitung

Space, energy, transport, environment, information technology, industrial robots and biotechnology are to get priority in research promotion.

Direct research promotion is to be reduced and indirect methods such as tax write-offs are to be stepped up. The changes would benefit industry by about DM300m a year.

The new emphasis was announced by the government in answer to a question in the Bundestag.

Direct promotion has already been reduced in favour of indirect promotion in the 1983/84 research budgets.

The Bundestag was told that government research promotion aims included conserving resources, protecting the environment, improving living and working conditions and improving industrial performance and competitiveness.

The emphasis would be on promoting initiative.

Innovation as a means of remaining competitive would be encouraged.

A pilot project costing DM100m has been set up to promote the establishment of technology oriented firms.

The government said basic research

must be boosted more. That included space, energy and transport research. Environment priority would be given to ecology research. Bonn is interested in increased international cooperation in information technology. Its hopes rest on the intended European research programme dubbed *Esprit* that would combine national and European measures. The government says biotechnology is one of the key industries of the future. The government says, biotechnology is one of the key industries of the future.

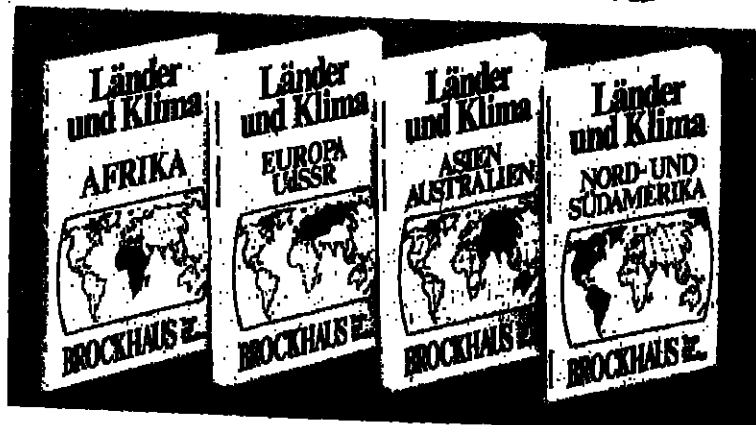
This area of research would probably lead to fundamental changes in a wide variety of chemical and pharmaceutical production methods.

A special programme is envisaged to enable Germany to keep pace with Japan and the USA.

dpa

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 1 December 1983)

## Meteorological stations all over the world



supplied the data arranged in see-at-a-glance tables in these new reference works. They include details of air and water temperature, precipitation, humidity, sunshine, physical stress of climate, wind conditions and frequency of thunderstorms.

These figures compiled over the years are invaluable both for planning journeys to distant countries and for scientific research.

Basic facts and figures for every country in the world form a preface to the tables. The emphasis is on the country's natural statistics, on climate, population, trade and transport.

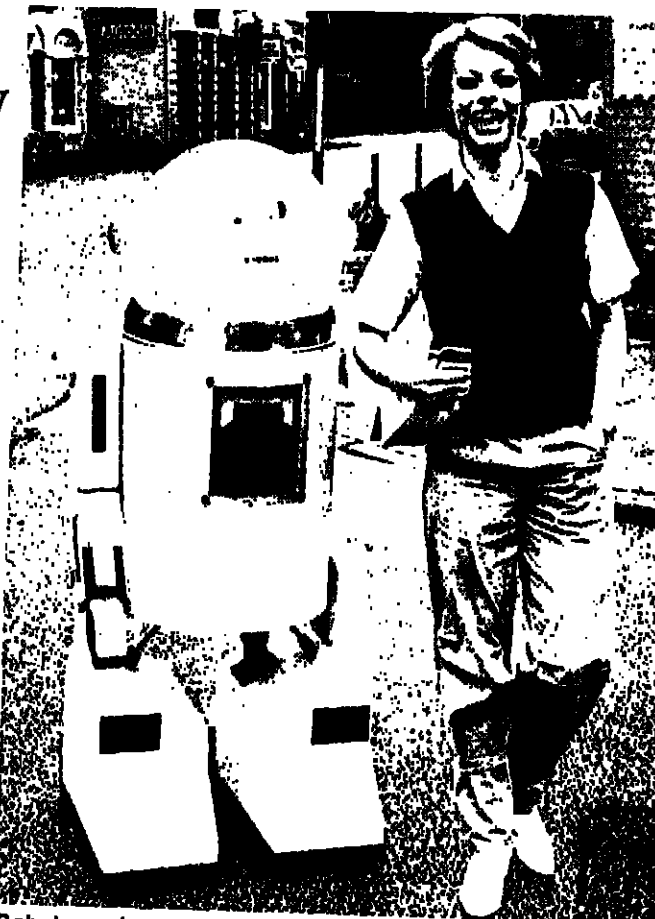
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Robots are becoming more sociable, too.

(Photo: dpa)

## More dexterous, more intelligent

There are some 30,000 industrial robots in use worldwide. More than 60 per cent are in the USA and Japan, Germany has a mere 11 per cent.

By 1990, there could be 300,000 in use by some estimates.

Robots are becoming increasingly dexterous and intelligent.

Munich's Procter 83, the international industrial electronics show, demonstrates this.

Bonn has set aside DM350m to promote the use of industrial robots and help German manufacturers catch up.

Robots are rapidly becoming capable of replacing humans in assembly work and transportation.

Sensor technicians are constantly inventing devices.

Today's robots can actually see by TV cameras, and they will soon be able to dip into a crateful of different parts and pick what they need.

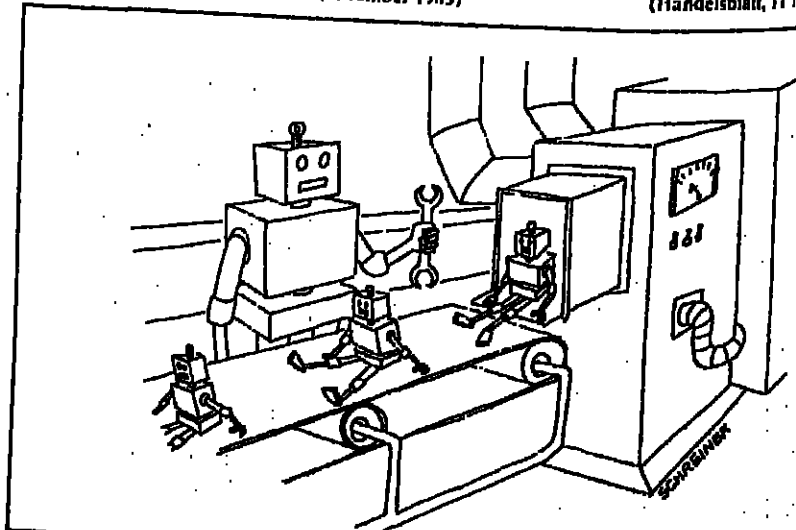
The automated assembly line equipment shown in Munich can process between 1,500 and 50,000 items an hour.

The equipment costs between DM150,000 and DM500,000.

The exhibition reveals just how fast the technology in developing. Items hailed as a breakthrough at the last Production two years ago are out of date.

Friedolin Engelfried

(Nürnberger Nachrichten, 11 November 1983)



(Cartoon: Schreiner/Die Presse)

## Microprocessors shows how to turn a revolution

Handelsblatt

The second industrial revolution gear. The driving force behind the first revolution was the steam engine. The second is being driven by the microprocessor.

Just how it has taken over was demonstrated at the Interkama exhibition in Düsseldorf. It is the world's largest trade fair in its field.

The focal point at this exhibition is building, equipping and otherwise mechanically controlled machinery. Information into its own in the manufacturing of unlike products.

This sort of manufacturing demands that the bulk of new scientific findings be put into practice.

Automation systems depend on robots and NC machinery. Demand for robots is expected to grow 30 per cent a year.

Industry is still faced with the problem of rationalisation. The only way to remain competitive. So that machinery is the only way to safeguard jobs and effort have gone into Space.

The industrial future will depend only on the extent to which it can be prepared to use new technologies. It also depends on its ability to keep pace with the development of new electronic components.

A great deal of catching up is necessary. Japan has equipped 45 per cent of its machinery with NC as against 20 per cent in this country.

Germany's industry had 3,500 robots as of the end of 1982. Japan had more than 10,000 and the USA 9,000.

So far, the most important microprocessor developments have come from the USA and Japan. Europe's industry can meet only a fraction of demand.

Europe's industry will have to make a major effort to fill this gap, says the Federal Republic of Germany.

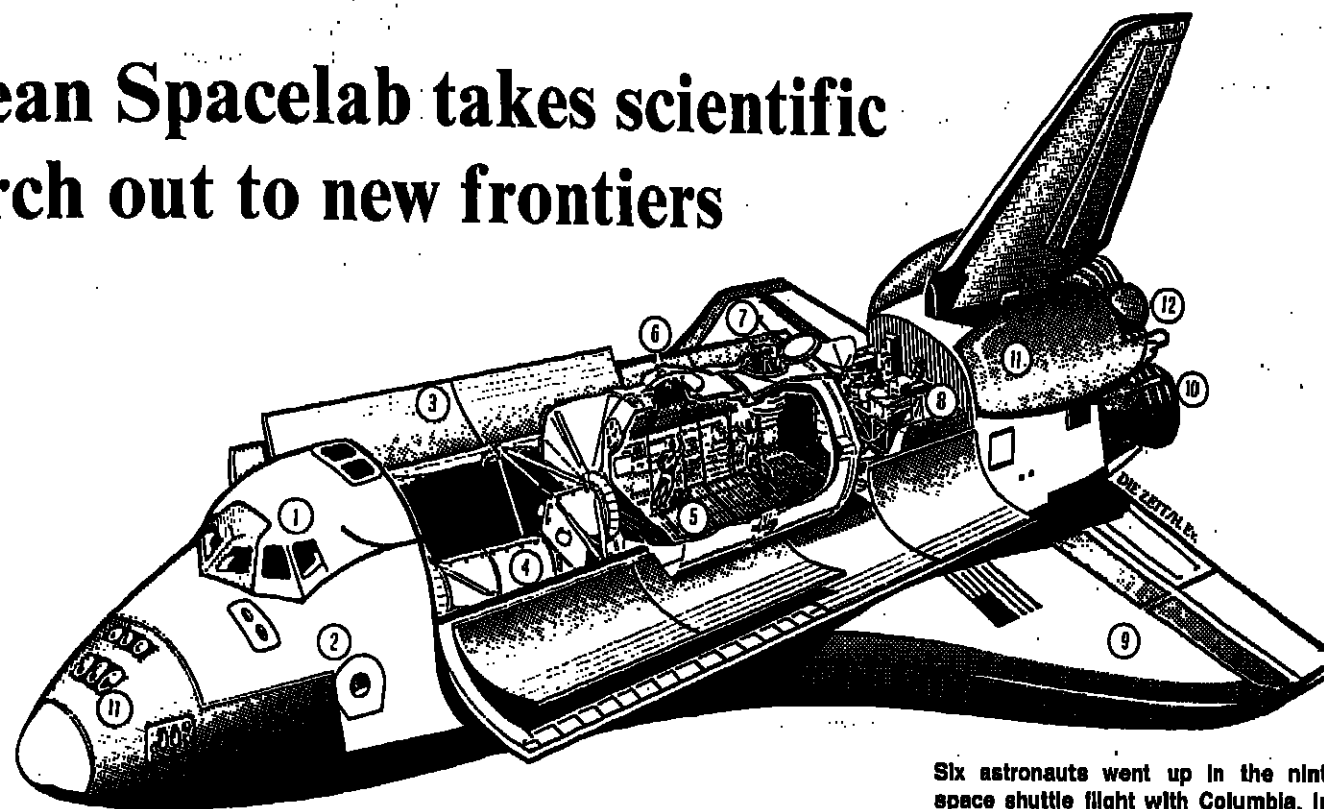
Industry is therefore bound to come the Bonn Research Ministry's idea for the promotion and development of microelectronics and information communication technologies.

Karlheinz Voss

(Handelsblatt, 11 November 1983)

## SPACE

## The European Spacelab takes scientific research out to new frontiers



Over 70 experiments are planned, including about 60 for European principals and the remainder for American, Canadian and Japanese clients.

The materials laboratory fitted out by Messerschmitt-Bölkow-Blohm can be used for a wide range of experiments with new metal alloys in zero gravity.

Large crystals that are important for the electronics industry can be grown artificially. Special experiments in liquid physics can be carried out.

The biological laboratory likewise makes a wide range of experiments possible. Ultrasonic probes to observe coronary arteries and the changes they undergo are to be tested, for instance.

This is an experiment from which "terrestrial" cardiography could well benefit. Other tests relate to eye and brain research.

Then there are botanical experiments to determine, say, how plants grow in zero gravity, while it is hoped to learn more about the relationship between weightlessness, the vestibular organ in the inner ear and the brain.

One aim of this set of trials is to learn more about space sickness, which is similar in its symptoms to seasickness.

Scientists also hope to make headway in solar research. Various telescopes, cameras and detectors are on the pallets to get a better view of the Sun and stars than is possible from terrestrial observations.

Speaking before the mission went ahead, he said a further delay might have been considered if the other satellite.

Columbia's cargo bay is about 18 metres long and five metres wide. Spacelab is stowed out with all manner of scientific equipment.

It will be used for about 70 experiments by Merbold and three American scientists, Byron K. Lichtenberg, Owen Garriott and Robert A. R. Parker.

Spacelab consists mainly of two parts: a pressurised cabin where the astronauts work in shirtsleeves, as it were, and a platform known as instrument

On the pallets instruments such as telescopes, sensors, antennas and other equipment are directly exposed to space conditions.

There are 39 instruments and experimental arrays on board Spacelab for its 14-day mission: 22 on the pallets and inside the pressurised cabin.

A number of experiments in scanning the earth's surface will be of direct and practical benefit.

The German Aerospace Research Establishment (DFVLR) has microwave remote sensing experiment on board to measure ocean swell and terrestrial heat emission.

A special camera has also been designed for use in helping to improve surveying of the Earth.

The 70-odd experiments subdivide into five main groups: astronomy and solar physics, atmospheric physics and terrestrial observation, plasma physics, bio-sciences, materials research and process engineering.

As many experiments will be in progress simultaneously there will be an enormous flow of scientific data that was originally to be relayed to ground control via two new satellites.

Only one of the two is now available, so not all data will be relayed. "Exact analysis has shown," payload specialist Merbold says, "that this one satellite is good enough for many experiments."

"But there are exceptions. They include the experiments in connection with the vestibular organ of the inner ear. This major and extremely important experiment will be made much more difficult."

Speaking before the mission went ahead, he said a further delay might have been considered if the other satellite.

Six astronauts went up in the ninth space shuttle flight with Columbia. Included was the first non-American on an American flight, Dr Ulf Merbold, a payload specialist. Commander of the operation is Moon landing veteran John Young. His place is together with pilot Brewster Shaw in the cockpit (1). There are three sleeping berths (2). Mission specialists Owen Garriott and Robert Parker as well as payload specialists Merbold and Byron Lichtenberg can float along an air-filled tunnel (4) into the European Space Agency's Spacelab (5) that is moored in the open loading bay (3). Planned were 72 scientific experiments. A palette (8) is fitted out with 38 various types of instrument. A window (6) and an airlock (7) are to enable photographs and measurements to be taken. The wings (9) are for powerless landing approaches. The main motors (10) use solid fuel. Steering jets (11) help maintain stability. The main manoeuvring motors (12) are used to brake the craft immediately before the return to earth.

(Diagram: H. Everling/Die Zeit)

lite could have been put into orbit within six months or so.

Spacelab faced a serious risk of failure by relying on only one satellite. The risk seems if anything to have increased now the remaining satellite has started giving trouble.

One of its two dish antennas to receive signals from Spacelab and relay them to the ground station has broken down.

Since not all data can be stored on board or radioed directly back to the Earth, scientific data seem sure to be lost.

Difficulties in relaying data are not the only problems that beset the project. Blast-off so late in the year has meteorological repercussions.

A number of experiments connected with charting the surface of the Earth, for instance, stand to suffer from the cloud cover.

So NASA has offered to rerun experiments affected in this way on a further mission next year (but not with a German astronaut on board).

The expense is yet another drawback. The Spacelab D-1 (Deutschland 1) mission, which is scheduled to carry out mainly German experiments in 1985, will cost DM400m.

The maiden flight will have cost less. The Americans have agreed to foot roughly half the bill.

Anatol Johansen

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, für Deutschland, 26 November 1983)



Dr Ulf Merbold slots, the first European to fly on an American space mission. (Photo: dpa)

## ■ THE CINEMA

## The documentary returns to the world of work

A 15-year-old film by Wilhelm Bittorf was the surprise at this year's Duisburg film festival, the seventh annual review of documentary films in the Federal Republic of Germany.

It was entitled *Bring Your Heads With You. The Ruhr in the Aftermath of the Coal Age*.

It showed in an exemplary manner how radical, how vivid and how striking in its use of montage techniques a documentary can be when it uses the aesthetic form of the feature film.

There were shots of colliery managers marching past, their faces frozen by the camera to reveal the telltale scars of sword-fighting students' fraternities.

There were shots of workers on the march, of their shoes and their ties, "everything you don't otherwise get to see," the director put it.

To this day his film is an interesting example from the history of the political documentary in Germany.

It was resurrected in Duisburg and can be seen to have links leading to the present and the cinematic treatment of the crisis of modern working life.

Automation and computerisation and new technologies on the production sector are busy bringing about a complete change in the world we live and work in, and many films shown in Duisburg were made in response to this phenomenon.

Documentary film-makers are showing renewed interest in the working world. Heinrich Breloer's TV documentary *The Book Machine*, for instance, demonstrates the progressive industrialisation of the arts in book production.

The printer's art as practised since the days of Gutenberg, the inventor of the printing press, is fast being replaced by the microchip and the visual display unit.

Compositors have become data minders at computerised photosetting units. The book has become a mass-produced cheap product designed for immediate consumption.

A manager at Bertelsmann's, the publishing giant, demonstrates how people handle cheap reading matter in America. Once they have read a page of a book, he says, they simply tear it out and throw it away.

The companies that run the book machine feel obliged to keep the book as a product line competitive in the market, with the result that output steadily increases.

There is no subject in this kind of progress, argues writer Hans Magnus Enzensberger in an interview with director Heinrich Breloer. That is why it can be survived.

But a niche at the rear of progress, as recommended by Enzensberger, will always be a privilege reserved for the intellectuals.

Claire Doutriaux, in her film *Getting the Hang of It*, an impressionistic portrait of a small Hamburg engineering works, shows that niches still exist in the production process.

At the factory she features engineers and designers still beaver away with workers at one-off devices or prototypes, including really original ideas.

Yet paradoxically enough, machinery is made by craftsmen in cooperation for the purpose of further rationalisation.

In dealing with the working world documentary film-makers are in many ca-

ses chronicling dying methods of production and labour.

Heinrich Breloer's outline of the changes the jobs of printers and compositors have undergone makes this point particularly clear.

Sorrow at the disappearance of sensual and specific forms of work is apparent in all the films shown.

The film-makers are also often at a loss what to make of the political and trade union disputes over the new technologies.

Cinema as a medium of writing everyday history and recording traces of history has always been a main feature of the Duisburg festival.

It was interesting to note that video groups, who put in a first appearance at Duisburg last year, are now into regional presentation and historical research.

A West Berlin video group put together a picture of everyday life in the Berlin borough of Schöneberg between the Weimar Republic and the Third Reich by means of biographical interviews.

Under German Soil is the title of a video documentary made by a Freiburg group who establish a link between wartime history and the "pre-war" present.

Professor Längsfeld of the Munich film and TV academy would like to make the annual competition between European film academies an intercontinental event.

He would very much like to see entries from overseas, especially as the competition (the organisers constantly emphasise that it is a festival) is popular with the viewing public.

This year 8,000 people attended, 3,000 more than last year. Last year 16 academic submissions; this year it was 24.

Film academy students and staff from all over Europe come to Munich, and not just for the festival but to compare notes with each other.

It is doubtful whether any further expansion would be advisable. Greater anonymity might hamper the participants' readiness to engage in debate.

Technical and financial conditions and selection procedures differ too widely from academy to academy to make inferences from work shown in Munich about the standard of young European film-makers. Tendencies at most can be identified.

Lukas, the intrepid failure of a young director in Reinhard Münster's *Dorado (One Way)*, is reminded by everything that goes on around him of films he has seen.

Many people at the Munich festival seem to share the view that whatever real life may get up to, the screen has already been there.

Anything that can possibly be resurrected is trundled out of the mothballs: from the musical to the gangster film to the period and costume piece.

Everything is quoted, parodied, copied that has ever made film history. Lack of self-confidence seems to be a more likely motive for this approach than any intention of dealing with famous predecessors in order to arrive at a style of one's own.

Take Csucsus Rottenbiller, a film by Tamas Tolmar from Budapest. It care-

The film is set in a mountain tunnel near Überlingen on Lake Constance that was drilled by forced labour during the war and used at the end of 1944 to relocate ordnance factories.

In this selfsame tunnel a keen civil defence worker is now busy practising for an emergency with technocratic perfection.

Films about the peace movement from various viewpoints were the third keynote of the festival.

There were scenes of the blockade of the nuclear weapons depot at Grossengstingen an shots of the ritualised relationship between demonstrators and the police.

The entries on this subject included a TV documentary by Wilhelm Bittorf, a super-8 film by a Tübingen group and a videotape from Freiburg.

Given that the peace movement seems to be constantly in the news at the moment it is easy to forget that it too has a history.

In a deliberately polemical and provocative manner the Freiburg group attempts to outline this history in a film entitled *A Word Can be a Caricature: Peace*.

The mere title shows that both semantically and politically the word is not as clear-cut as it could be.

The videotape montage takes a historical look at this state of affairs and shows that far from peace-loving politicians have been known to use the word for warlike purposes.

A scene from 'Auf Den Drehen' (Getting the Hang of It), a film by Claire Doutriaux and this Schröder of Hamburg.

(Photo: Duisburger Film Festival)

Duisburg doesn't bother with prizes for prizes and awards. This year the festival was a forum of discussion on the aesthetic and political conditions of documentary-making. André Kertész, Martin Munkasei, Alfred Eisenstüd — and Felix Man.

Klaus Gronow (Hannoversche Allgemeine, 18 November 1983)

## Polish entries steal the Munich show

fully and effectively tells the tale of the break-up of a mediocre bar combo.

Yet Tolmar is unable to resist the temptation to resort to the costume, decor and lighting of the film noir.

The intensity of the story is sacrificed for the sake of the nostalgic charm of treachery and overflowing ashttrays in poorly-lit bars.

*Dorado (One Way)*, the film with which Reinhard Münster graduated from the Berlin film and TV academy, is an example of how close everyday life can come to the clichés of stereotyped films.

But it has no need of cheap sensational effects. The ironic but careful and detailed description of alternative narrow-mindedness in Berlin alone would be enough to make the film worth seeing.

Münster could also afford to dispense with the spectacular showdown toward which the plot inexorably heads and let it just be narrated and discussed. The tension would still be there.

Entries similar in subject matter but viewed by different schools were combined by the organisers to make up programmes entitled *Cabaret*, *Gone with the Wind*, *Modern Times* and the like.

The entries from Lodz arrived late and were shown en bloc as belated films. They turned out to be the stars of the show.

Students at the Lodz film academy deal not with the cinema but with Polish reality.

Many allusions fail to get across to people only superficially acquainted with conditions in Poland, and maybe only at second hand. But the films certainly get across to their public.

The entries were all in black and

white but outshone the rest in passion and conveyed a still stronger impression of what it feels like to live in Poland today.

One of the main aims of the competition is to take care not to let the documentary, which is felt to be assigned equal importance to the feature.

But this year very few entries came to scratch. Most were more potently individual people presented in a form manner.

Scenes are strung together by a fiction while the leading characters are taken from his or her life off-screen.

The film-maker lies low, leaving the audience in doubt about his view and basically failing to justify his choice of this particular topic.

The most interesting documentary was *Chłopcy*, by Maciej Degej from Katowice, the tale of a gang of young men who earn their living by their money-changing and relax with women in their spare time.

The most interesting trick film was *Night Club*, by Jonathan Hodgson from the Royal College of Art, London.

In scenes with the spontaneity of sketches he expresses his astonishment at the absurd behaviour people get up to the moment they set foot in a disco.

Entries ranged from three-minute shorts to films that took almost an evening, so the jury this time made awards.

The best short film was *Jajko*, by rota Kedzierzawski from Lodz. The feature film was *Zizi*, by Anita Jankowska from Hungary.

The jury felt the best overall programme of entries submitted this year was from the Brussels film academy. The prize was supplied by last year's winner, the Royal Academy of London.

It was a wax reproduction of Alfred Hitchcock's right hand from *Modesty Blaise*.

Claudia Schöler (Süddeutsche Zeitung, 17 November 1983)

11 December 1983

## PEOPLE

## Reporter who pioneered photo journalism

FELIX MAN

In the 1920s, the face of German illustrated journalism changed. Photography became a means of telling a story and of merely a means of illustrating

the printed world became a subsidiary of the picture. This was the birth of photo-journalism.

At the vanguard of the pioneers who made the change was Felix H. Man, who celebrated his 90th birthday.

His forces were essential parts of the German illustrated press. One was the editors of the leading illustrated magazines of the 1920s, Paul Feinels and Stefan Lora of *Illustrierte Presse* and Karl

Salomon of *Berliner Illustrierte Zeitung*. The other was the small group of photographers who came to make photographic

discussions on the aesthetic and political conditions of documentary-making. André Kertész, Martin Munkasei, Alfred Eisenstüd — and Felix

Man. They were professional photographers who had a formal training. Most had gone to university and Salomon, Tim

Wolff and Hans Böhm were at the top echelon. They were part of the elite of the German illustrated press.

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Blackpool, England, 1948. From Man's *Photographien aus 70 Jahren*.

The story to be told was always more important than the personal attitude of the photographer. As a result, the photographers of the late 1920s never developed a "personal style." Every subject was depicted in the form that suited it best.

Apart from Salomon, who specialised in photographing famous contemporaries and important conferences, every reporter was equally at home with any subject.

Man's work, for instance, covered such everyday stories as the cross section of a Berlin apartment house or the plight of the Silesian weavers along with photographs of VIPs.

He did society reports as ably as his famous 1931 series on Mussolini. He later concentrated primarily on artists.

Peter Dittmar

(Die Welt, 29. November 1983)

Felix H. Man, *Photographien aus 70 Jahren*, Schirmer/Mosel, Munich, 288pp, DM49.80.

## Film authority Lotte Eisner dies at 87



Lotte Eisner... guru of a generation of directors. (Photo: Süddeutscher Verlag)

most famous film archives, where many of today's greats learned their craft, and for many years a friend of Eisner.

They met in 1933, when Eisner fled to Paris.

Eisner graduated as an archaeologist. Her career as a Berlin film critic was brief and extremely effective.

The Nazi daily *Völkischer Beobachter* commented on her review of *Gilda* (Poisson Gas): "When the heads roll, this head will be the first to roll." She took the night train to Paris.

For her, the *Cinémathèque* began when she helped Langlois sort out the scripts and programmes in his suitcases and started viewing the films that were piling up in the bathtub.

The days of German occupation were dramatic. Langlois took the copies of films he wanted saved from the Nazis to her hideout.

Lotte Eisner was lucky to escape detection. She saved the film *Kuhle Wampe*, and with Langlois' help, also saved director Slatan Dudow, whom the French had interned as a communist.

After 1945, she continued to work as an archivist at the *Cinémathèque*, eventually become the high priestess of the art of film.

Her books were essentially an attempt to familiarise France's young directors with the classical German cinema.

Her works bear the stamp of sensitivity, sound research training and sweeping comparative studies.

It was she who drew attention to the significance for period films of the Austrian stage director Max Reinhardt.

And was she who time and again stressed the importance of technique in film making, especially in such expressionist works as Robert Wiene's *Cabinet of Dr. Caligari*.

What made this so interesting was that Wiene later had great trouble talking the set designers into agreeing to his ideas on style.

Lotte Eisner now lives only in memories and in her books.

And her attitude that stopped her condemning a film out of hand ("No film can be so bad that there's nothing good that can be said about it") is also gone.

Brighton Desai

(Kölnischer Stadt-Anzeiger, 29. November 1983)



Since April 1982 clouds of sulphuric acid swirling around in the stratosphere have reached a concentration not observed for decades.

They hail from the eruption of El Chichon, a Mexican volcano.

Meteorologists, volcanologists and climatologists all over the world have followed their progress with keen interest.

They are a textbook example of the effect on the climate of sulphurous volcanic activity and can possibly be used in weather forecasting.

For some years many climatologists have been forecasting a continual increase in the carbon dioxide count in the atmosphere.

Caused by the combustion of fossil fuels (coal and oil), it reduces the radiation of heat from the earth.

Views differ on the extent to which this carbon dioxide is absorbed by the oceans, but the increase currently recorded should be enough to boost the earth's surface temperature by about 0.05 degrees centigrade a year.

This effect may, however, be more than offset by a reduction in surface temperature caused by volcanic eruptions.

They emit sulphuric compounds into the atmosphere which oxidise as sulphuric acid and orbit the earth as aerosol clouds of sulphuric acid droplets.

This aerosol reflects solar radiation and thus reduces the temperature on the earth's surface.

It is an effect that in principle has been known to exist for ages, but no-one knew for sure what its magnitude was or what individual factors influenced the effect of a volcanic eruption on the climate.

So climatologists and volcanologists were delighted when on 28 March 1982 a long inactive volcano in Mexico, El Chichon, suddenly erupted.

It sent substantial quantities of sulphur compounds soaring into the stratosphere to altitudes of nearly 30 km, or 20 miles.

The eruption was observed by satellite on the same day, while the progress of the eruption cloud was followed worldwide from the start.

Nasa, the US space agency, sent U-2 reconnaissance aircraft up 17 times to collect samples of the atmosphere. In many countries samples were taken by balloon.

This was the method used by the Max Planck Nuclear Physics Institute, Heidelberg, for instance.

In the United States, Japan, Brazil and many European countries the progress of the aerosol clouds was followed by laser-radar reflection readings.

The sulphuric acid clouds were responsible for magnificent pink and purple sunrises and sunsets and glowing pink night clouds.

The eruption gases from El Chichon consisted mainly of hydrogen sulphide, together with sulphur dioxide, chlorine and fluorine.

The hydrogen sulphide quickly oxidised to sulphur dioxide and then to sulphuric acid with a half-life of about three days.

Sulphuric acid is hygroscopic. In other words, it attracts water. Clouds of sulphuric acid droplets with a water content of about 25 per cent formed the aerosol that is still orbiting the earth after repeated eruptions by the volcano.

The clouds of sulphuric acid have largely spread round the northern hemisphere, where their density appears to be several times greater than over the southern hemisphere.

Particularly clear observations on the effects of the eruption have been made

## RESEARCH

# Volcanic eruptions key to keeping earth cool

by the Institute of Atmospheric Environmental Research in Garmisch, Bavaria.

The institute's director, Professor R. Reiter, and his staff have noted that the mass of the particles suspended in the stratosphere has increased at least tenfold, according to laser-radar readings taken between March 1982 and February 1983.

But the density of these aerosol clouds seem to have passed its peak since last spring.

Research financed by the Scientific Research Association (DFG) shows that the aerosol output of the El Chichon volcanic activity exceeded all eruptions since El Agung in 1963.

It released into the atmosphere an estimated six million tons of sulphuric acid, according to the National Laboratory in Los Alamos, USA.

That is an amazing amount, given that the overall eruption mass was a mere 0.3 cubic kilometres and the eruption was a fairly minor spate of volcanic activity.

One explanation of the extremely high output of sulphuric gas could be that the volcano melted down sediment formations containing sulphates during the rise of its magma.

This sulphate will then have been exuded in the form of gas.

We know that there are salt forma-

tions on top of El Chichon's magma chamber (and they usually include sulphate salts) and that salt crystals were found among the volcanic ash suspended in the atmosphere.

The experts have yet to agree on what effect El Chichon will have on the climate, but observations by an American satellite, the NOAA-7, suggest it may be considerable.

One of the measurements the satellite takes is the temperature of water on the ocean's surface, and in areas where aerosol clouds from the volcano were overhead the temperature read was regularly several degrees too low.

It was too low in comparison with readings taken by meteorological research and survey vessels and recording buoys. In other words, the aerosol intervened to prevent surface heat from getting through to the satellite.

Model estimates have been made at the Goddard Laboratory for Atmospheric Sciences, taking into account not only the density of the sulphuric acid aerosol but also the size of droplets and their altitude (which heightens the effect).

Scientists there have concluded that mean annual temperature in the northern hemisphere will fall by between 0.3 and 0.5 degrees a year for several years as a result.

## Unlocking the secrets of the atmosphere

Measurements taken by rockets in the middle atmosphere supplying extra information.

Four groups of German scientists are associated with the scheme, including two from Max Planck institutes. It has been dubbed Winc, short for Winter in Northern Europe.

It forms part of MAP, the international Middle Atmosphere Programme. Most of the cost is borne by Norway and the Federal Republic of Germany.

In Germany the main sources of funds are the Scientific Research Association (DFG) and the Bonn Ministry of Research and Technology.

The equipment to be used includes newly designed radar systems such as a mobile Soudy installation provided by the Max Planck Aeronomy Institute in Lindau in the Harz.

Other devices are, for instance, a lidar (a kind of optical radar on a laser basis) supplied by Bonn University physics department. It reads temperatures directly at high altitudes.

The linchpin of the lidar is a laser on a wavelength exactly attuned to the yellow spectral line of sodium. Its vertical beam triggers a response from sodium atoms at heights of between 80 and 100 km.

Depending on their temperature these atoms move at characteristic speeds and reflect a slightly different wavelength on account of the doppler effect.

Measurement of the bandwidth of sodium reflection is thus a precise reflection of the gas's temperature at this altitude.

The decline will bottom out in three years after the eruption, after which would mean next year or the year after.

But the repercussions need by means invariably take the form of a change in temperature. They could well affect us, for instance, changes in atmospheric circulation.

The conceivable consequences of an increase in carbon dioxide in the atmosphere will certainly be more than for several years by this single eruption.

A volcano that erupted on 1963 sent up similar amounts of sulphuric acid. Subsequent eruptions at Helens on the US west coast and in Kamchatka have sent up less.

The true potential effect on the climate of volcanic activity has been demonstrated by French volcanologists. A reconstruction of the sulphuric output of what may have been the greatest historic eruption, Tambora on island of Sumbava.

It is said to have spewed more than 200 million tons of sulphuric acid height of up to 40 km (25 miles) into the stratosphere.

That would seem to imply that the temperature was reduced 30 times more powerfully than by El Chichon, which is naturally improbable.

But the effect on the climate has been enormous, although it has not been worked out.

The climatic effect of volcanic activity should certainly not be underestimated. Volcanoes rival factory chimneys in their carbon dioxide output and are borne in mind when making ecological forecasts.

Harald Schneider  
(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 25 November 1983)

Another long-range thermometer measures the infra-red radiation of certain molecules comes from Wuppertal University, while the Max Planck Clear Physics Institute, Heidelberg, contributed a mass spectrometer to ensure the chemistry of electrically charged particles in the atmosphere.

Andoya is the organisational centre of the measurement campaign. Five of the rocket launching facilities are based there.

They are Lista in Norway, Kiruna, Sweden, Heiss Island and Volgograd in the Soviet Union and Akropolis in the Gambia.

Additional help will be provided by a number of American NOAA and NASA satellites.

The overwhelming majority of the launches as planned will be a matter of sending up "falling balls" or meteorological data probes.

They are either mere radar reflectors that shed light on wind speed and direction or on atmospheric density deduced from changes in the speed at which a plummet.

Or they are probes that incorporate extra temperature measuring device.

High-altitude research rockets carry more sophisticated payloads. Half are launched during a sudden increase in stratospheric temperature, the other half during a "normal" phase.

Project scientists hope they will have enough data to account for phenomena in the middle atmosphere the existence of which has not been known for very long.

They will then be able to bridge the gap that still exists between our understanding of the lower atmosphere (the weather zone) and the upper atmosphere, where conditions have more in common with those in outer space.

Heiner M. Lachmann  
(Rheinischer Merkur/Christ und Welt, 18 November 1983)

## MODERN LIVING

# Huge rally to help people to help themselves

## STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG

homosexuals, drug addicts, alcoholics, cripples and people with illnesses were among the group invited at a self-help meeting in Stuttgart.

The aim was to build up moral support and to help people to help themselves. The theme was: "Together we are stronger - living and learning in self-help groups."

The attendance was enormous, and at the entrance hall, various groups of information stalls knocked together from wooden planks and glued boards.

The meeting was run by groups affiliated to the Hamburg University Hospital. The theme was: "Together we are stronger - living and learning in self-help groups."

Many of the sick and the relatives who care for them are reluctant to take their problems to the doctor. It is here that the self-help groups come in.

Groups for the chronically ill provide a forum to exchange case histories and treatment methods, experiences with drugs and artificial limbs.

Harald Schneider  
(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 25 November 1983)

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Communicating with the world of deafness and blindness.

(Photo: Gerhard Helders)

They also give the chance for victims to vent their feelings of impotence in the face of doctors and the medical establishment.

It's not just talk, though. Excursions and swimming parties are organised. So are courses in arts and crafts.

There is a constant coming and going as people who have just learned about their illness or have just had surgery seek the company of other sufferers.

Other groups deal primarily with people with psychological or emotional problems who find it difficult to talk about their troubles.

Other groups help the next-of-kin, mostly mothers of young victims.

More and more children with serious illness can be kept alive today. And more and more young people are taking drugs.

Epilepsy and cancer can also hit the very young.

Parents organised themselves, formed groups and counselling centres for newcomers, took part in various courses and established meeting places.

With the self-help groups here to stay, doctors are becoming less patronising. Established structures are becoming brittle as patients refuse to unconditionally accept what doctors say.

The mother of a child whose illness took a long time to be diagnosed thought the doctor handled her patronisingly.

## Doctors wrong

Now she has joined a group of other mothers in similar circumstances, and dealing with doctors.

Professor Michael Lukas Moeller of the Frankfurt University Clinic, one of the pioneers of self-help groups, told the meeting that a congress of this size would have been unthinkable only ten years ago.

Doctors then would have spoken of a "mob of patients gone berserk."

Psychiatrists feared that they would be flooded by patients turned into psychological wrecks by self-help groups.

None of this has happened. The groups are not fuelling hostility against doctors, but they are also not prepared to accept everything without criticism.

The Munich Adult Education Centre now offers a course initiated by a self-help group: "The Adult Patient - Sick but not at the Doctor's Mercy."

The course teaches how to formulate and defend one's rights in dealing with doctors.

Self-help groups are still relatively new. That's why they have teething troubles and a large fluctuating membership.

About one in five groups discontinues shortly after being established. But considering their loose structure, no harm is done.

Only the well-established larger groups have a firm membership and work with social welfare organisations.

Most of the rest are little more than private groups without money, without a firm meeting place, without address and telephone and without public sector support.

Members have to pay the DM20 or so to rent a classroom for meetings. They pay their own postage and other costs.

Some cities have contact and information centres that refer people seeking help to a suitable group.

Some of these contact centres and smaller groups even get a small allowance from local authorities.

The Hamburg meeting dealt primarily with the city's own self-help groups.

Hamburg has for some years had a contact centre that has now for the first time been promised a DM200,000 subsidy to be paid by the city's health authority.

The representative of the health department announced this at the congress but he was booed because his head of department, Deputy Mayor Helga Elstner, did not deliver the welcoming address as promised.

He told the meeting that there were 616 self-help groups in Hamburg, 235 for alcoholics, which helped between 12,000 and 16,000 people. Most members had medical problems.

When he praised what he called the selfless and honorary work, one woman who is in charge of a cancer after-care group for women heckled: "I'm not an office holder and I can do without the honour. I'm a patient myself and my work in the group is meant to benefit me too."

Two delegates from Hamburg's Grey Panthers, a nationwide group representing old people, also attended.

But most of the delegates were young and middle-aged people.

The state, the municipalities and the medical profession as a whole should support their work.

Grete Scheel

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 24 November 1983)

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